CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Easter Sunday **April 20, 2025**

*Please stand in body or in spirit. 10:30am Worship Service

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kathy Pavick

PRELUDE

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *Antiphonal Alleluia (excerpt)* G.A. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP[1]

Leader: People of God, we are witnesses to these things:

People: that Christ died, hanging on a cross; that God raised him from the dead on the third day; that he is coming again in glory to reign.

Leader: This is the good news we tell to all the world:

People: Jesus Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***OPENING HYMN** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* UMH 302

CALL TO CONFESSION[2]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Gracious God, we have heard the good news: how on the third day, Christ rose again.

People: Still we look for the living among the dead.

Leader: You rolled away the stone from the tomb.

People: Still we look for the living among the dead.

Leader: You sent messengers to proclaim the gospel.

People: Still we look for the living among the dead.

Leader: You were faithful to your promise; you have done wonderful things!

People: Still we look for the living among the dead.

[silent confession]

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[1] Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2012.

[2] Confession sequence from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019*. Copyright © 2018 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

We Are All God's Children

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

** denotes member*

**Bobby Blankenship*	*Al Tobey*	*Erik T.*	*Lindsey Elswick*
**Monta Demchak*	*Carol De Laat*	*Frank*	*Lindsey Parker*
**Dave Dickman*	*Carol*	*Gail*	*Mary*
**Mitzi Herrick*	*Caroline*	*Geof Funk*	*Mary Ellen*
**Cindy Light*	*Chris M.*	*J & J*	*Mary W.H.*
**John Motley*	*Darlene*	*Jan*	*Max*
**Peter Oesterreich*	*Darlene*	*Jim*	*MJ*
**Janis Pongallo*	*Daryana*	*Jim*	*Rosie*
**Linda Prudhoe*	*David R.*	*John*	*Roy Buser*
**DeeDee Rencehausen*	*Dennis*	*Joshua C.*	*Seth Buser*
**Nadene & Dennis Smith*	*Diane*	*Kathy*	*Sheri G.*
**Joan Thorkelson*	*Dixie*	*Laurie*	*Ted and Marie Nyland*
**Galen Younkin*	*Doug Emery*	*Lee*	*Tom Szor*
Ukraine, Israel and Gaza	*Dotty*	*Lily Van Scyoc*	*Viola*
Pastor Jason Thompson	*Ed Rote*		

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Non-weekly meetings and activities are in **bold print**.

SUN (04/20): **EASTER Sunday**
Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30am/San Diego Community Garden
Breads and Spreads, 9:30am/Gathering Area
Worship, 10:30am

TUE (04/22): Choir Rehearsal, 7pm/Sanctuary

SAT (04/26): **Community Meal, 5pm/Jump Fellowship Hall**

SUN (04/27): Worship, 10:30am
Medina Chorus Spring Concert, 3pm/Medina UMC

Christ UMC Welcomes All

We welcome all persons to our church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background, social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation, or other means people use to categorize or discriminate against others. For our full statement, go to our website.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3625 West 138th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111
216.671.2600 FAX: 216.671.2601 www.christumc.com

PASTOR: *The Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, OSL*
Cell: *216.509.4229* Email: *pastordiannetc@gmail.com*
Office Hours this week: Pastor Dianne will be on study leave next week and unavailable April 21-28. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Al Naab or Galen Younkin, who can direct you to the pastor on call if necessary.

LITURGIST: *Kathy Pavick*
USHERS: *Al Naab, Phil Jennings, Jack Murphy*
GREETER: *Nancy Horton*
ACOLYTES: *Ian Eagan, Ben Eagan, Eli Gadomski Littleton, TJ Wood, Grace Horton*
AUDIO and VIDEO TECHNICIANS: *John Motley, Rob Pongallo*
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: *Susan Balesky*
ORGANIST/PIANIST: *Roy Buser*
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: *Desiree Tarpeo* Email: *office@christumc.com*
Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm*

GOAL - FOCUS - STRATEGIES

GOAL: Grow in relationship with Jesus Christ in order to change the world around us, starting with our own community.

FOCUS: To achieve this goal, we will prioritize reaching out to our community as essential to our personal and congregational growth as Christians.

STRATEGIES:

1. We will build meaningful relationships with the people in our community.
2. We will strive to listen and understand the needs of our community.
3. We will use our building and resources to meet those needs in a tangible way.

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Ask an usher if you would like a LARGE PRINT HYMNAL, Braille hymnal or hearing device.

Leader: Forgive us, Lord, we pray. Teach us to trust your promise and to believe the good news of salvation:

People: Christ is alive; Jesus is risen from the dead. Amen

WORDS OF GRACE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *Season of Promise* M. Hayes

CHILDREN'S HAPPENING

SCRIPTURE READINGS Acts 10:34-43 Pew Bible 895

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (with Sung Response 2) UMH 839

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 Pew Bible 936

*Luke 24:1-12 Pew Bible 860

God is still speaking. **And we are still listening. Thanks be to God!**

***GLORIA PATRI** *Glory Be to the Father* UMH 71

SERMON *Why Do We Look for the Living Among the Dead?*

Pastor Dianne Tobey Covault

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN OF REFLECTION *Christ is Risen* UMH 307

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

OFFERTORY PRAYER[3]

Risen Christ, bring resurrection hope through these gifts we now bring! May they become signs of new life, and symbols of hope for a hurting world— a world yearning for the life-giving power of your saving love. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

ORDER FOR RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING WITH INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

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[3] Offering sequence from *The Abingdon Worship Annual*, ibid

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** *Up From the Grave He Arose* UMH 322

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Hallelujah Chorus* from G. F. Handel's *Messiah*

Ruth Ann Cunningham, organist

***POSTLUDE**

MEDINA CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Excitement is in the air! Get ready to be part of something extraordinary at **Medina Chorus Inc**'s Spring 2025 Concert, **"A Trip to Broadway".** It's an afternoon with something for every Broadway lover, including musical selections from West Side Story to Wicked. Don't miss out, come join us! Sunday, April 27th at 3PM at Medina United Methodist Church located at 4747 Foote Rd in Medina. For more information, visit their website at https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/a-trip-to-broadway-medina-chorus-spring-concert.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN'S EASTER EVENT

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Neighborhood children's Easter bag event! We distributed 133 Easter bags to our neighborhood children on April 5 and it would not have been possible without your donations of candy or financial assistance. The families who participated are very thankful for all that this congregation does for their children!

STAR WORDS

At the beginning of the year, we handed out "Star Words". I invite you to take the word you chose and use it throughout the year as a way to center your prayer time and to be aware of God's presence throughout the day. If you have not received a word, please let Pastor Dianne know and she will get one to you! Each week in the bulletin there will be a journal prompt or reflection question that encourages you in your use of the word.

For this week: **Journal about how your word has changed your perspective so far this year.**

A WORD OF THANKS

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Reflections Class and to everyone who joined us for the Spring Fling Soup & Salad Luncheon! Your smiles, fellowship, and presence made the day truly special, and I'm so grateful to have shared it with all of you.

A special thank you to the talented performers whose gifts filled the room with joy — your music lifted our spirits and made the afternoon unforgettable.
I'm also deeply grateful for the incredible team of volunteers, cooks, and kitchen helpers who planned, prepared, and served with such care and kindness. Your dedication and hard work created a warm and welcoming experience for everyone who attended.

And to everyone who supported us by purchasing mugs and tumblers — thank you! Between the luncheon and merchandise sales, we raised about $1,300, enough to cover the costs of three or four monthly meals. What an amazing and meaningful impact you've made!

Thank you all for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at future events and at our Community Meals. Please join us for our 15th Anniversary Celebration on April 26th!

John

SERMON NOTES

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION[4]

What difference does it make to believe that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead? How does your faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ change the way you think about sin and death? How does it change the way you live?

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

God of endless life,
in the light of this new day
we see the dawning of your new creation.
Give us wonder and delight
to enjoy this day that you have made;
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening
and the day is almost over.
Help us to know that you are with us—
through the promise of your Word,
in the sharing of a meal,
and by the power of your Spirit
that burns within our hearts.
Bless and keep us, this night and always. Amen.

[4] These questions for reflection and prayers are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2012.